



**MICHIGAN**  
VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY<sup>SM</sup>

POWERED BY **Stride**

**Michigan Virtual Charter Academy**

Charter Office  
1620 East Elza  
Hazel Park, MI 48030

Administration Office  
5910 Tahoe Dr., SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

616-309-1600

**Michigan Virtual Charter Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

**Monday – September 27, 2021**

**6:00 PM**

**Hazel Park Schools**

**1620 E. Elza**

**Hazel Park, Michigan 48030**

If unable to attend in person, please participate via zoom link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83354918993>

**1. Call to Order**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Monique Lake, Colin Houston, Scott Stangeland, Ramone Crowe Jr., Aaron Walker

Absent: Marva Foster, Lynn Hathorn

Other Attendees:

Mary Markert-Stride K12, Carol Main-Stride K12, Ann VanderLann-Clark Hill, Randy Rodriguez-MVCA, Rachel Forgo-MVCA, Amela Redzic-MVCA, Jessica Biehl-MVCA, Kim Bush via zoom-MVCA, Todd McIntire via zoom-Stride K12, Kelley Davis via zoom-Veritas Accounting

**3. Public Comment on Agenda (comment on agenda items only, 3 minutes per person)**

None

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion: Director Ramone Crowe, Jr. moved to approve the agenda**

**Second: Director Scott Stangeland**  
**Motion unanimously approved**

5. **Approval of August 23, 2021 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Motion: Director Ramone Crowe, Jr. moved to approve the August 23, 2021 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting**

**Second: Director Aaron Walker**  
**Motion unanimously approved**

6. **Finance Report**

- a. Motion to approve the August K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$1,125,710.25.

**Motion: Director Scott Stangeland moved to approve the August K12 and non-K12 invoices for \$1,125,710.25**

**Second: Director Colin Houston**  
**Motion unanimously approved**

7. **Head of School Report**

- a. **Digitization of Records Update:** HOS, Randy Rodriguez, shared an update regarding a slight change in the pricing quote from MOS following the sampling process. Mr. Rodriguez explained that this new price will be brought to October's board meeting for approval along with the negotiated agreement with MOS.
- b. **Achievement Data:** MVCA's Data Analyst, Jessica Biehl, shared the Academic Overview for school year 2020-2021. Data was shared at the state level regarding MSTEP, PSAT, SAT. In ELA, almost every grade level showed a proficiency rate increase. However, Ms. Biehl and Mr. Rodriguez noted that it is important to keep in mind the number of students that took the test in 2021 was uncharacteristically low. Because of covid, the state did not require students to test. Ms. Biehl also shared NWEA and STAR data at the local level regarding benchmark testing. Overall, there were student growth increases in Math and Reading.

Mr. Rodriguez expressed his excitement about these assessments and how MVCA has maintained a trajectory of growth. MVCA has not seen any significant drops for our students during the pandemic.

Ms. Biehl shared information on graduation rates and how there have been significant gains. There is a graduation task force that helps track students once they have left MVCA, as this can impact rates. Principal Sheila Boehning will speak more on graduation rates at an upcoming board meeting. The state has two different accountability systems; the data has not been released yet, but MVCA expects to see an increase.

Director Crowe, Jr. asked how MVCA's graduation rate compares to other virtual or charter schools?

Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Biehl shared that virtual schools are unique as students also get counted multiple times based on different subgroups and this affects the data as well. Ms. Biehl further explained that students who do not graduate are coded differently and that is why it is important to track them. MVCA's internal graduation rate is around 95%.

- c. **Student Support Team:** Student Support Team/Family Engagement Administrator, Amela Redzic, shared information regarding MVCA's Student Support Team (SST). The SST focuses on the 5 E's: Engage, Equip, Encourage, Expect, and Empower. The Student Support Team maintains the following programs:
  - i. Strong Start
  - ii. 28 student clubs
  - iii. Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) programs
  - iv. Back on Track
  - v. McKinney-Vento
  - vi. Family Engagement
  - vii. Family Pulse Check

The Board of Directors shared their appreciation for the work of our Student Support Team as they recognize the value of a strong culture and the impact on student retention.

**8. Authorizer Comments and Updates**

None

**9. K12 Comments and Updates**

Mr. Todd McIntire explained the report from the auditor general in the state of Michigan's review of MDE's oversight of cyber schools was released last Friday. The 50-page report identifies some places where MDE oversight was not as sufficient as it could be, authorizers doing an inadequate job, and other findings related to teacher certification and background check monitoring. MDE had the opportunity to respond and disputed most of the findings. There are places in which MDE lacks the legislative authority for specific oversight. All the data cited is from the 2016-2017 school year, and since then, many changes have occurred. MVCA was not a school included in the study. MVCA has experienced strong oversight from both authorizers it has served under, and we continue to work with Hazel Park to maintain this strong relationship. We will continue to monitor the report and responses.

**10. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (limited to 3 minutes)**

None

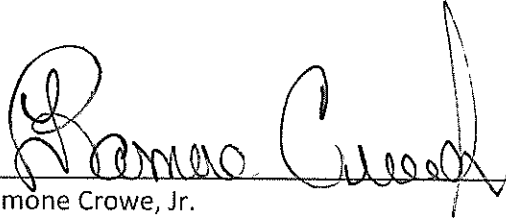
**11. Reminder of Next Board Meeting**

October 25, 2021  
Hazel Park Schools  
6:00 PM

**12. Adjournment**

7:18 p.m.

The undersigned duly qualified Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy, hereby certifies that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Board Meeting Minutes of the regular board meeting held on September 27, 2021 and approved at the Board's October 25, 2021 Board meeting, and that proper notice of the regular public Board meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, 1976 PA 267, as amended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramone Crowe, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

Ramone Crowe, Jr.  
Board Secretary